

Application No. 09/707,536

REMARKS


A Notice of Allowance and Fees Due was mailed in connection with this application on December 28, 2004. The amendments proposed herein do not add new matter and are merely presented to correct formal matters. In particular, the changes made amend the first paragraph of the specification to reflect that the present application is a continuation-in-part of the parent application, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/849,621. The status of the present application as a continuation-in-part application was set forth in the transmittal originally submitted with the application. In addition, Applicants note that the application was filed prior to November 29, 2000, and therefore the time periods for submitting a benefit claim as set forth in the present version of 37 CFR §1.78 do not apply. Accordingly, entry of the amendment to the specification is respectfully requested.

A petition under 37 CFR §1.47(a) to permit the application to proceed without a non-signing inventor was filed on February 16, 2001, together with the required fee and supporting declarations. A decision on this petition has not been received. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a decision granting the petition be provided.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if doing so would expedite the resolution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.

By: 
Bradley M. Knepper
Registration No. 44,189
1560 Broadway, Suite 1200
Denver, CO 80202-5141
(303) 863-9700

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